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PATENT

Docket No. 3553-4044US2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Jay S. Walker et al.

Group Art Unit: 2175

Serial No : 09/518,495

Examiner: S. Rimell

Filed : March 3, 2000

For : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE SALE OF AIRLINE-SPECIFIED
FLIGHT TICKETS

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

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DEC 05 2003

Technology Center 2100

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

In response to the office action dated May 22, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the instant application in view of the following remarks. The instant Response contains no amendment to the specification or claims. A petition for an extension of time for consideration of this response is enclosed herewith.

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 144-289 are currently pending in the instant application. Claims 236-237 were rejected under 35 USC 101. Claims 144-235 and 238-239 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 5,732,398 to Tagawa.

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC 101

In the instant office action, Claims 236-237 were rejected under 35 USC 101 because inter alia the claimed device "would not function as an airline ticket". In particular, the Examiner asserts